

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: ann hamm <fuloham@yahoo.com>

To: "fuloham@yahoo.com" <fuloham@yahoo.com>

Sent: Saturday, November 19, 2011 10:21 PM

Subject: DEC traffic, impacts

12/1/2011

Dear Members of the DEC and Government Officials,

I currently live in the village of Dryden, NY. My family and I have been wanting to move to the Caroline area of Tompkins County. We have been looking to start a small farm on 10 - 20 acres. Our dreams of owning such a place are hindered by the amount of leased, but perfectly usable land, that is available. The potential, and, already proven, hazards are taking a serious toll on areas where drilling has taken place: increased traffic, trucks carrying hazardous fluids, road damage, negative impacts on wildlife, a multitude of health problems, undrinkable water, loss of real estate, a need for more law enforcement because of more crime due to stresses in a population boom in a small town atmosphere not used to dealing with that abrupt of a change.

As for the impact on wildlife, Many of us think of wildlife as the animals and plants we can actually see. Where is this Hydraulic fracturing chemical solution going? Far down into the earth. It will spread out under the crust and then what? It has to effect the microscopic functions of plant life at that level. If all of those intricate systems get thrown out of balance, as we've seen happen in our oceans and deep lakes from pollution, then how will the gas companies be held accountable for something that can't be detected for years down the road?

The staffing for the DEC has recently seen cuts and in my opinion has always been under staffed due to a bad economy and, more, a lack of caring on the part of certain people who hold important positions. Even so, New York State has held precedence in the importance of protecting and conserving our natural resources. Please ban this hazardous and ill practice once and for all. Many across the world are looking to missions like ours to have the ability to do the same. Instead of wasting time and lots and lots of money on trying to sort out this insane endeavour, let us instead look towards energy supplies that are renewable. Water, wind and solar energy would bring permanent jobs to citizens, give landowners royalties (permanently, not just until the well runs out) and not have nearly the environmental and health impacts that drilling for natural gas would have.

Our environment is getting damaged more and more on a daily basis by greed and big business. This has to stop! I want my son to be able to breath the air and drink the water and enjoy the outdoors, NOT to be afraid to breath the air, drink the water and go outside because conditions, like those in Wyoming, Texas, Arkansas, South Dakota, West Virginia, Colorado, Pennsylvania, and so on, are a danger to his health for his lifetime as a human being on this earth. I do not ever want to be one of those parents that have to go through the horrifying experience of having a child diagnosed with cancer or some other disease because the State that we live in and the conservancy that was supposed to protect us could not hold off the greed of gas companies and ignorance and/or greed of certain landowners.

I also would like to know why it is that the NYC and Syracuse watersheds are exempt from drilling while the rest of us are not. If the hydraulic fracturing process has been deemed unsafe for these areas with a concentrated population than why is it ok to drill in a rural area where consumer reliance is heavily based on the local farmers, artisans, vinyards, brewers; outdoor activities like fishing, hunting, hiking, camping? What is that saying to people like us who live in a rural area of NYS? This is saying to me that if a small group of

families (like Dimick, PA, who are about to have their water delivery taken away now) in a wide spread area are effected by hazards from drilling, then it's ok with the DEC and gas companies. In real statistical data, that means "no proof" that anything has gone wrong because there is not enough subjective and unsubjective data to prove a theory. That is an insult to our intelligence. ^{Don't think we're} ~~We are not~~ ignorant just because we live in this beautiful place most urban dwellers would call the sticks. We live here because we respect the beauty that surrounds us and we are here tonight because we don't want this beauty to be taken away by greed.

We are New Yorkers. We are tough. We can hold our own in the face of hard economic times. We do not need the "help" and "promise" of big industry to keep us afloat. We are not stupid hicks from these rural areas. We are concerned. We need a safe place to live. We need the Department of Environmental Conservation and all elected officials to keep us safe from this disastrous destruction below, on and above our land.

Thank you for hearing my concerns. Please do the right thing.

Most Sincerely,
Ann Hamm

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Ann Hamm", written in dark ink.